

FIREMEN OF UTAH REMEMBERED IN BILL

Measure to Create a Relief Fund and Increase Efficiency of Departments

INSURANCE COMPANIES TO BE TAXED FOR PURPOSES

Long Debate Over the Bill Before Final Action Is Taken

The house bill creating a fireman's relief fund and to increase the efficiency of the fire departments in the several towns and cities in the state occupied the attention of the house for an hour Saturday morning. The bill provided that every fire insurance company doing business in Utah shall pay one dollar upon the one hundred dollars, and at that rate upon the amount of all premiums written on fire with the incorporated limits of cities and towns during every year. The purpose of this is to create a fund, all of which except three per centum, shall be held in trust and used solely and entirely for the relief of members of the department when injured, and the payment of gratuities to widows or those dependent upon members of fire departments killed while in discharge of duties.

Question as to Constitutionality.

There was a question raised as to the constitutionality of the proposed law, in that it was taxing institutions for the purpose of striking out of the State the money which was to be used. This was the contention of Mr. Ashtab, whose motion to strike out the enactment clause precipitated the debate. His motion was lost. Messrs. Clegg, Archibald, Clegg, and Clegg, and Messrs. Cracken, Holman and Porter spoke in behalf of the measure and presented an array of figures and cited authorities to sustain their contention. They also paid high tribute to the men who were in the fire departments of the various cities and towns in the state.

Messrs. Cannon and Morris opposed the measure, and Messrs. Clegg and Holman, the latter asking the Washington county representative a number of questions.

That the previous question was demanded and sustained, and a call of the roll upon the passage of the bill followed. This resulted in the bill passing by a vote of 24 ayes, 12 nays, eight absent. The roll in detail follows. Those voting for the bill were

Ayes.

Allen,	Holman,
Archibald,	King,
Barnett,	McCracken,
Bower,	McMillin, H. A.,
Clegg,	McRae,
Davis,	Nebohn,
Eastley,	Pope,
England,	Porter,
Fuller,	Russell,
Funk,	Smith,
Hanson,	Thornley,
Haycock,	Wootton,
Hewitt,	Mr. Speaker.

Those voting in the negative were:

Ashton,	Morris,
Cannon,	Murdoch,
Dortus,	Partridge,
Hammond,	Thompson,
Holt,	Webster.
McMillan, Wm.,	

Those absent and not voting were:

Baker,	Jensen,
Berens,	Nielson,
Hayes,	Randall,
Hodges,	White.

Mr. McCracken voted aye, then changed to nay, and then again to aye. Mr. McMillan voted nay and then changed to the affirmative.

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